

# THE PHOTA



The Phota (the Greek word for lights) is a publication of the Valparaiso University Panhellenic and Interfraternity Councils



## 2015-2016 Fraternity and Sorority Excellence Awards

The annual Valparaiso University Fraternity and Sorority Awards Ceremony took place at the end of April, and the following chapters and individuals were recognized for excellence:

**President's Award for Fraternity and Sorority Excellence:**  
Gamma Phi Beta and Sigma Phi Epsilon

**Dean Delores Ruosch Sorority Woman of the Year**  
Lauren Skinnotes, KKG

**Kyle James Carson Fraternity Man of the Year**  
Richard Schraeger, III, ΦΚΨ

**Fraternity and Sorority Pillars of Excellence:**  
ΧΩ, ΓΦΒ, ΚΔ, ΛΧΑ, ΦΣΚ, ΣΦΕ

**Most Improved Chapter Award:**  
Chi Omega

**Outstanding Fraternity and Sorority Chapter President:**  
Bethany Sodo, ΚΔ and Kyle Crawford, ΦΣΚ

**Values in Action Award:**  
Sigma Phi Epsilon for the  
Balanced Man Scholarship Leadership Retreat

**George T. Kilavos Outstanding Chapter Advisor**  
Karen Seykowski, ΠΒΦ  
Don Langhoff, ΦΔΘ

**Mark R. Schwehn Ph.D. Outstanding Faculty Advisor:**  
Dr. John Ruff, ΣΦΕ

**Outstanding Fraternity and Sorority Emerging Leader:**  
Kelsey Stallter, ΧΩ and Jonathan Schildwachter, ΠΚΑ



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 2016: *FOCUS Orientation Sessions*

June 28: *Sigma Chi Founders Day*

# Chapter Spotlight:

## Lambda Chi Alpha & Sigma Phi Epsilon

Two members of the Valparaiso University fraternity community have been selected to work for their national organizations in a chapter consultant role for the upcoming year. Being asked to serve on the national staff team is a significant honor, and we are thrilled that two of our very own have been selected!

Tommy Morrison (on left) will be serving as a Sigma Phi Epsilon Regional Director for the 2016-2017 academic year. Tommy will participate in the Summer Staff Development Program for Sigma Phi Epsilon in Richmond, Virginia this summer before hitting the road. Tommy served on the Executive Board for the Valpo SigEp chapter as the Vice President of Member Development I 2015.



Taylor Krivas (on right) will be serving as an Educational Leadership Consultant for Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity, and began his professional staff training in June in Indianapolis, Indiana. Taylor served as the Valpo Lambda Chi Alpha Chapter President in 2014, an Interfraternity Council officer in 2015, and as the University Programming Board (UPC) President in 2015-2016.

### High Academic Achievement Reported for Spring 2016

The Valparaiso University Fraternity and Sorority Community once again performed well above the all-male and all-female average for students at Valparaiso University for the spring 2016 semester. With a 3.336 all sorority average and a 3.198 all fraternity average, the community continues to raise the bar for academic performance on campus.

In addition to the success of the individual chapters, the spring 2016 grade report indicates the following:

- 42% of fraternity men and sorority women perform above a 3.5 semester grade point average
- The highest new member class average was Chi Omega with a 3.402 with 20 new members
- 14 out of 15 chapters have above a 3.0 semester GPA

The fraternity and sorority community is looking forward to the year ahead and continuing to raise the academic standard for members.

Gamma Phi Beta – 3.456
Chi Omega – 3.431
Kappa Delta – 3.338
Pi Beta Phi – 3.253
Kappa Kappa Gamma – 3.218
Sigma Lambda Gamma – 3.085
Sigma Phi Epsilon – 3.378
Phi Delta Theta – 3.356
Lambda Chi Alpha – 3.234
Sigma Pi – 3.208
Sigma Chi – 3.189
Phi Kappa Psi – 3.176
Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia – 3.112
Phi Sigma Kappa – 3.054
Pi Kappa Alpha – 2.923

Have a story to share in the next issue of *The Phota*?

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